

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CARACA 00344 131645Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 /023 W  
-----007983 132157Z /72

R 131331Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
TO USDOC WASHDC  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 701

UNCLAS CARACAS 0344

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: BEXP, VE  
SUBJECT: VENEZUELA FERTILIZER PURCHASES

REF: STATE 285

AGRICULTURE MINISTRY CONTACTS, (INCLUDING FERTILIZER EXPERT WHO REPORTS DIRECTLY TO AGRICULTURE MINISTER, PINTO COHEN AND IS IN CONSTANT TOUCH WITH GOV'T FERTILIZER ENTITY VENFERCA) REPORT GOV IS NOT CONTEMPLATING IMMINENT PURCHASE OF LARGE AMOUNT OF FERTILIZER. IF AND WHEN FERTILIZER PURCHASES ARE MADE, THE AGENCY RESPONSIBLE WILL BE VENEZOLANA DE FERTILIZANTE C.A. (VENFERCA), AVENIDA PRINCIPAL DE MACARACUAY, EDIFICIO INDULAT, #3 PISO.

EMBASSY SEEKING TO CONFIRM ABOVE REPORT WITH PRIVATE CONTACTS WHO ARE EXPECTED BACK IN CARACAS MID-JANUARY.

DURING THE MEETING, MINISTRY EXPERTS STATED THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD BE A LOGICAL SOURCE OF FERTILIZER FOR VENEZUELA BECAUSE SHIPPING COSTS ARE CHEAPER, THE DOLLAR, TO WHICH THE VENEZUELAN BOLIVAR IS TIED, HAS FALLEN IN VALUE, MAKING PURCHASE THE U.S. CHEAPER IN RELATION TO EUROPE, AND THE QUALITY OF U.S. FERTILIZER IS GOOD. THE PROBLEM IS LACK OF AVAILABILITY OF THE NITROGEN, PHOSPHATE, POTASSIUM TYPE FERTILIZER NEEDED IN VENEZUELA

U.S. COMPANIES PRODUCE ENOUGH FOR DOMESTIC NEEDS BUT NOT MUCH  
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PAGE 02 CARACA 00344 131645Z

MORE AND THEREFORE DO NOT CONSTITUTE A STEADY SOURCE, MARKETING AGGRESSIVELY, AS IN THE CASE WITH EUROPEAN SUPPLIERS.

VAKY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978CARACA00344  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780021-0122  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Subject:** VENEZUELA FERTILIZER PURCHASES  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014